



JAN 22 2003
500.30310CX2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Nobuo HAMAMOTO et al.

Serial No.: 09/886,368

Filed: 22 June 2001

For: DIGITAL INFORMATION SYSTEM, DIGITAL AUDIO SIGNAL PROCESSOR AND SIGNAL CONVERTER

Art Unit: 2123

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Examiner: K. Thangavelu

JAN 22 2003

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

Technology Center 2100

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

17 January 2003

Sir:

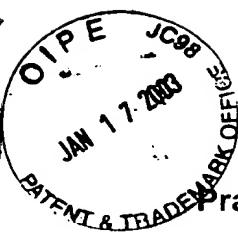
The undersigned, as a principal attorney of record in the above-identified application, hereby appoints Paul J. Skwierawski, Reg. No. 32,173, as associate attorney of record, to prosecute and transact all business connected with this application and any related U.S./international application.

Please continue to direct all correspondence regarding this case to:

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP
1300 North Seventeenth Street, Suite 1800
Arlington, VA 22209
Telephone 703-312-6600
Facsimile 703-312-6666

Respectfully submitted,

Carl I. Brundidge, Registration No. 29,621
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP
1300 North Seventeenth Street, Suite 1800
Arlington, Virginia 22204-3801, USA
Telephone 703-312-6600
Facsimile 703-312-6666



Practitioner's Docket No. 500.30310CX2

PATENT

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**STATUTORY DISCLAIMER TO OBLIGATE
A DOUBLE-PATENTING REJECTION (37 C.F.R. Section 1.321(c))**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

IDENTIFICATION OF PERSON(S) MAKING THIS DISCLAIMER

I, Paul J. SKWIERAWSKI, represent that I am an attorney of record.

EXTENT OF DISCLAIMANT'S INTEREST

The extent of the interest in this invention that the disclaimant owns is in the whole of this invention.

**DISCLAIMER
(Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection Over A Prior Patent)**

HITACHI, LTD. ("Disclaimant") hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent No. 6,282,611 as presently shortened by any Terminal Disclaimer. Disclaimant hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the above-listed patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors, or assigns.

In making the above disclaimer, Disclaimant does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. Sections 154 to 156

and 173 of the patent forming the basis of the double patenting rejection, namely, U.S. Patent No. 6,282,611, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, in the event that it later expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.321, has all claims cancelled by a reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, except for the separation of legal title stated above.

DISCLAIMER FEE (37 C.F.R. Section 1.20(d))

Other than a small entity--fee \$110.00 (Fee Code 1814).

FEE PAYMENT

Attached is a Form PTO-2038 (Credit Card Payment) including the sum of \$110.00.

Charge Account No. 01-2135 for any fee deficiency.

Date: 17 January 2003



Paul J. Skwierawski
Registration No. 32,173
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP
Customer No. 020457
1300 North Seventeenth Street, Suite 1800
Arlington, Virginia 22209-3801, USA
Telephone 703-312-6600
Facsimile 703-312-6666